House Bill 356

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By: Representatives Fludd of the 66<sup>th</sup>, Smyre of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Porter of the 143<sup>rd</sup>, Kaiser of the 59<sup>th</sup>, Abrams of the 84<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, so as to revise substantially the manner and method of collecting local sales and use taxes; to change certain provisions regarding collection of certain local taxes by the state revenue commissioner; to provide for certain procedures and limitations with respect to private collecting firms; to provide for a definition; to change certain provisions regarding administration and collection of the joint county and municipal sales and use tax; to change certain provisions regarding required information on sales tax returns; to change certain provisions regarding distribution and use of proceeds of such tax; to change certain provisions regarding procedures for certifying additional qualified municipalities; to change certain provisions regarding distribution of proceeds to qualified municipalities which cease to be qualified; to change certain provisions regarding levy of such tax in certain special districts; to change certain provisions regarding administration by the state revenue commissioner of the homestead option sales and use tax; to change certain provisions regarding the administration by the state revenue commissioner of the county special purpose local option sales tax; to change certain provisions regarding return requirements of such sales tax; to change certain provisions regarding disbursement of the proceeds of such tax; to change certain provisions regarding the imposition and collection of the sales tax for educational purposes; to change certain provisions regarding administration by the state revenue commissioner of the water and sewer projects and costs sales and use tax; to change certain provisions regarding return requirements of such sales tax; to change certain provisions regarding disbursement of the proceeds of such tax; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

24 PART I

25 **SECTION 1-1.** 

26 Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is

- amended by revising Code Section 48-2-10, relating to collection of certain local taxes by
- 28 the state revenue commissioner, as follows:
- 29 "48-2-10.
- 30 The commissioner is authorized to negotiate and contract with the governing authority of
- any county or municipality for the purpose of arranging for the collection by the
- 32 commissioner of any tax levied by the county or municipality when the tax is also levied
- and collected by the commissioner for the state. The agreement shall include a fee to be
- 34 paid by the county or municipality to the commissioner in an amount which covers fully
- 35 the cost of collection of the local portion of the tax by the commissioner. The
- 36 commissioner shall transmit to the county or municipality all taxes so collected on behalf
- 37 of the county or municipality on or before the date specified in the agreement, less the
- 38 collection fee agreed upon Reserved."

**SECTION 1-2.** 

- 40 Said title is further amended by designating Code Sections 48-2-30 through 48-2-61 of
- 41 Article 2 of Chapter 2 thereof as Part 1 of said article, and inserting at the end thereof a new
- 42 Part 2 to read as follows:
- 43 "Part 2
- 44 48-2-70.
- 45 (a) For purposes of this part, the term:
- 46 (1) 'Government collector' means any county or municipality acting pursuant to a valid
- 47 contract under this part to administer, collect, and distribute any local or special district
- 48 sales and use taxes established by this chapter or authorized by local constitutional
- amendment.
- 50 (2) 'Local sales and use taxes' means any local or special district sales and use taxes
- established in this chapter or authorized by local constitutional amendment.
- 52 (3) 'Private collector' means any private party acting pursuant to a valid contract under
- 53 this part to administer, collect, and distribute any local or special district sales and use
- taxes established in this chapter or authorized by local constitutional amendment.

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(b)(1) The administration, collection, and distribution of any local sales and use taxes may be performed by the commissioner, a government collector, or private collector pursuant to a written contract approved and executed by the county, municipalities, and boards of education who are the beneficiaries of the local sales and use taxes levied within such special district or county. Approval and execution of the contract by the municipalities shall be achieved through approval by resolution and execution of the contract by one or more municipalities representing more than one-half of the aggregate municipal population of the special district or county within which the tax is levied. Approval and execution of the contract by the boards of education shall be achieved through approval by resolution and execution of the contract by one or more boards of education representing more than one-half of the aggregate full-time equivalent student population within the county. (2) Upon final approval and execution of the written contract, the county shall notify the commissioner that the local sales and use taxes will be collected by a government collector or private collector and shall forward a copy of the executed contract to the commissioner. (3) Within 30 days of receipt of such notice, the department shall provide, without fee or other charge, to the government collector or private collector and each county, municipality, and board of education within the county or special district a list of known taxpayers of state and local sales and use taxes located within the county or special district within which the local sales and use taxes are levied. (4) The department shall provide notice to dealers required to collect and remit one or more of the local sales and use taxes covered by the contract. The notice shall inform dealers of the transition from collection of such taxes by the department to collection of such taxes by the government collector or private collector. The department shall provide such notice within 390 days of the department's receipt of notice from the county under paragraph (2) of this subsection. (c) Where collection by a government collector or private collector of one or more local sales and use taxes has been authorized by written contract as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, collection by the government collector or private collector shall begin on the first day of the next succeeding calendar quarter which begins more than 80 days after the final approval of the contract and shall occur at the same time and in the same manner as state sales and use taxes are to be paid to the department. (d) Upon first contact with a dealer or taxpayer under the local sales and use tax, a government collector or private collector shall provide in writing the identity of all jurisdictions on whose behalf such contact is made.

(e) Where a contract is not entered into as provided in this part, the commissioner shall
 continue to collect, administer, and distribute the local sales and use tax in accordance with
 the applicable general state laws or local constitutional amendment otherwise authorizing

- 94 <u>the imposition and collection of that local sales and use tax.</u>
- 95 48-2-71.
- The power to audit dealers and taxpayers to determine compliance with the provisions of
- 97 this chapter shall be retained exclusively by the department, which may initiate an audit as
- otherwise provided by law and may receive and consider requests for audits.
- 99 <u>48-2-72.</u>
- 100 (a) The department and the Georgia Technology Authority shall provide by regulation for
- 101 <u>a single uniform and centralized method for electronic filing, payment, and distribution of</u>
- returns, local sales and use taxes payments, and related documents by dealers whose
- estimated aggregate tax liability for taxes imposed pursuant to this chapter exceeds
- \$1,000.00. Such single uniform method shall be utilized by dealers, the department, any
- government collector, and any private collector and shall provide for a single address for
- all returns and the distribution of electronic payments and relevant portions of returns to
- the department or the applicable government collector or private collector. The
- department, the commissioner, and the Georgia Technology Authority shall not impose any
- 109 <u>fee or charge of any kind for performing this function</u>. Except for the 1 percent collection
- amounts otherwise authorized under Chapter 8, the commissioner, any government
- 111 collector, or any private collector may impose on dealers a fee not to exceed 10 percent of
- the amount due on the return for filing a return or paying a tax liability by other than
- electronic means.
- 114 (b) The commissioner shall provide by regulation for the classification of dealers by codes
- provided for by the North American Industrial Classification System of the United States
- Bureau of the Census and such classifications shall be utilized on all electronic returns.
- (c) Unless otherwise provided by contract, the commissioner shall disburse sums due to
- counties, municipalities, and boards of education within three business days of processing
- by the department.
- 120 (d) The commissioner shall facilitate and expedite, for no additional fee or charge, the
- exchange of returns and payment information for each local sales and use tax among and
- between the department, the government or private collector acting pursuant to written
- contract to collect such local sales and use tax, and the counties, municipalities, and boards
- of education who are the beneficiaries of such local sales and use tax.

(e) Notwithstanding Code Section 40-7-60 or any other state law, all records obtained from dealers and taxpayers pursuant to this chapter may be disclosed among and between the department, the government or private collector acting pursuant to written contract to collect such local sales and use tax, and the counties, municipalities, and boards of education who are the beneficiaries of such local sales and use tax, for the purposes of ensuring compliance with the tax and with other laws, and for the purposes of conducting or publishing research for economic development or economic forecasting where the published report does not identify particular reports or returns. Such returns and reports are not subject to Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50. Unless disclosure is required by a subpoena, warrant, proper judicial order, or otherwise as provided by law, any person who knowingly and willfully discloses records for an unauthorized purpose shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

137 PART II.

138 **SECTION 2-1.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-87, relating to administration and collection of the joint county and municipal sales and use tax, as follows:

141 "48-8-87.

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The tax levied pursuant to this article shall be exclusively administered and collected by the commissioner for the use and benefit of each county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of a special district and of each qualified municipality located wholly or partially therein. The provisions of Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 2 of this title shall be applicable to the administration and collection of such tax. When such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner, such Such administration and collection shall be accomplished in the same manner and subject to the same applicable provisions, procedures, and penalties provided in Article 1 of this chapter, except that the joint tax provided in this article shall be applicable to sales of motor fuels as prepaid local tax as that term is defined by paragraph (5.2) (5.1) of Code Section 48-8-2; provided, however, that all moneys collected from each taxpayer by the commissioner shall be applied first to such taxpayer's liability for taxes owed the state jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax. Dealers shall be allowed a percentage of the amount of the tax due and accounted for and shall be reimbursed in the form of a deduction in submitting, reporting, and paying the amount due if such amount is not delinquent at the time of payment. The deduction shall be at the rate and subject to the requirements specified under subsections (b) through (f) of Code Section 48-8-50."

159 **SECTION 2-2.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-88, relating to required

information on sales tax returns, as follows:

162 "48-8-88.

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Each sales tax return remitting taxes collected under this article shall separately identify the location of each retail establishment at which any of the taxes remitted were collected and shall specify the amount of sales and the amount of taxes collected at each establishment for the period covered by the return in order to facilitate the determination by the commissioner that all taxes imposed by this article are collected and distributed according to situs of sale."

169 **SECTION 2-3.** 

- 170 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-89, relating to distribution and
- 171 use of proceeds, as follows:
- 172 "48-8-89.
- (a) The proceeds of the tax collected by the commissioner in each special district under
- this article shall be disbursed as soon as practicable after collection as follows:
- 175 (1) One percent of the amount collected Where such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner, 1 percent of the amount collected shall be paid into the general fund
- of the state treasury in order to defray the costs of administration; and
- 178 (2) Except for the <u>amount or percentage provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection</u>, the
- remaining proceeds of the tax shall be distributed to the governing authority of each
- qualified municipality within the special district and to the governing authority of the
- county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district for
- the purpose of assisting such political subdivisions in funding all or any portion of those
- services which are to be provided by such governing authorities pursuant to and in
- accordance with Article IX, Section II, Paragraph III of the Constitution of this state.
- (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that no agreement as to the distribution of the
- proceeds of the tax shall enrich any political subdivision beyond a sum which in the
- absence of the distribution would be raised through other sources of revenue. The
- distribution shall be in accordance with a certificate which shall be executed in behalf of
- each respective governing authority, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, and
- which shall encompass all respective political subdivisions, shall be filed with the
- commissioner, and shall specify by percentage that portion of the remaining proceeds of
- the tax available for distribution which each such political subdivision shall receive. On
- or after July 1, 1995, the distribution of proceeds of the tax as specified in the certificate
- shall be based upon, but not be limited to, the following criteria:

(1) The service delivery responsibilities of each political subdivision to the population served by the political jurisdiction and served during normal business hours, conventions, trade shows, athletic events and the inherent value to a community of a central business district and the unincorporated areas of the county and the obligation of all residents of the county for the maintenance and prosperity of the central business district and the unincorporated areas of the county;

- 201 (2) The service delivery responsibilities of each political subdivision to the resident population of the subdivision;
- 203 (3) The existing service delivery responsibility of each political subdivision;

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- 204 (4) The effect of a change in sales tax distribution on the ability of each political subdivision to meet its short-term and long-term debt;
- 206 (5) The point of sale and use which generates the tax to be apportioned;
- 207 (6) The existence of intergovernmental agreements among and between the political subdivisions;
- (7) The use by any political subdivision of property taxes and other revenues from some
   taxpayers to subsidize the cost of services provided to other taxpayers of the levying
   subdivision; and
- 212 (8) Any coordinated plan of county and municipal service delivery and financing.

Notwithstanding the fact that a certificate shall not contain an execution in behalf of one or more qualified municipalities within the special district, if the combined total of the populations of all such absent municipalities is less than one-half of the aggregate population of all qualified municipalities located within the special district, the submitting political subdivisions shall, in behalf of the absent municipalities, specify a percentage of that portion of the remaining proceeds which each such municipality shall receive, which percentage shall not be less than that proportion which each absent municipality's population bears to the total population of all qualified municipalities within the special district multiplied by that portion of the remaining proceeds which are received by all qualified municipalities within the special district. For the purpose of determining the population of the absent municipalities, only that portion of the population of each such municipality which is located within the special district shall be computed. No certificate may contain a total of specified percentages in excess of 100 percent. The certificate shall be filed with the commissioner by March 1, 1980, for those special districts in which the tax authorized by this article is being levied on January 1, 1980. For all other special districts in which the tax shall be imposed subsequent to January 1, 1980, the certificate shall be filed with the commissioner within 60 days after the tax is imposed within the district. The commissioner shall continue to distribute the proceeds of the tax shall continue to be distributed as otherwise provided in this Code section until the first day of

the next calendar year following the month in which the commissioner receives a certificate as provided in this Code section, which certificate shall provide other percentages upon which the commissioner shall make the distribution shall be made to the political subdivisions entitled to the proceeds of the tax. At such time, the commissioner shall thereafter distribute the proceeds of the tax shall be distributed in accordance with the directions of the certificate.

(c) If the certificate provided for in subsection (b) of this Code section is not received by the commissioner by the required date, the authority to impose the tax authorized by Code Section 48-8-82 shall cease on the first day of the second calendar month following the month in which the tax was initially imposed and the tax shall not be levied in the special district after such date unless the reimposition of the tax is subsequently authorized pursuant to Code Section 48-8-85. When the imposition of the tax is so terminated, the commissioner jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax shall retain the proceeds of the tax which were to be distributed to the governing authorities of the county and qualified municipalities within the special district until he the commissioner receives a certificate in behalf of each such governing authority specifying the percentage of the proceeds which each such governing authority shall receive. If no such certificate is received by the commissioner within 120 days of the date on which the authority to levy the tax was terminated, the proceeds shall escheat to the state and the jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax shall transfer the proceeds to the commissioner shall for transfer the proceeds to the state's general fund.

(d)(1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (7) of this subsection, a certificate providing for the distribution of the proceeds of the tax authorized by this article shall expire on December 31 of the second year following the year in which the decennial census is conducted. No later than December 30 of the second year following the year in which the census is conducted, a renegotiated certificate meeting the requirements for certificates specified by subsection (b) of this Code section shall be filed with and received by the commissioner. The General Assembly recognizes that the requirement for government services is not always in direct correlation with population. Although a renegotiated certificate is required within a time certain of the decennial census, this requirement is not meant to convey an intent by the General Assembly that population as a criterion should be more heavily weighted than other criteria. It is the express intent of the General Assembly in requiring such renegotiation that eligible political subdivisions shall analyze local service delivery responsibilities and the existing allocation of proceeds made available to such governments under the provisions of this article and make rational the allocation of such resources to meet such service delivery

responsibilities. Political subdivisions in their renegotiation of such distributions shall at a minimum consider the criteria specified in subsection (b) of this Code section.

- (2) The commissioner shall be notified in writing of the commencement of renegotiation proceedings by the county governing authority in behalf of all eligible political subdivisions within the special district. The eligible political subdivisions shall commence renegotiations at the call of the county governing authority but no later than July 1 of the second year following the year in which the census is conducted. If the county governing authority does not issue the call by that date, any eligible municipality may issue the call and so notify the commissioner.
- (3) Following the commencement of such renegotiation, if the parties fail to reach an agreement within 60 days, such parties shall agree to submit the dispute to nonbinding arbitration, mediation, or such other means of resolving conflicts in a manner which, in the judgment of the commissioner, reflects a good faith effort to resolve the dispute. Any renegotiation agreement reached pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with the requirements specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection.
- (4) If the renegotiated certificate provided for in paragraph (1) of this subsection is not received by the commissioner by the required date, the authority to impose the tax authorized by Code Section 48-8-82 shall cease on December 31 of the second year following the year in which the decennial census is conducted and the tax shall not be levied in the special district after such date unless the reimposition of the tax is subsequently authorized pursuant to Code Section 48-8-85. When the imposition of the tax is so terminated, the commissioner jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax shall retain the proceeds of the tax which were to be distributed to the governing authorities of the county and qualified municipalities within the special district until the commissioner receives a certificate in behalf of each such governing authority specifying the percentage of the proceeds which each such governing authority shall receive. If no such certificate is received by the commissioner within 120 days of the date on which the authority to levy the tax was terminated, the proceeds shall escheat to the state and the jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax shall transfer the proceeds to the commissioner shall for transfer the proceeds to the state's general fund.
- (5) If the commissioner receives the renegotiated certificate by the required date, the commissioner shall distribute the proceeds of the tax shall be distributed in accordance with the directions of the renegotiated certificate commencing on January 1 of the year immediately following the year in which such certificate was renegotiated or the first day of the second calendar month following the month such certificate was renegotiated, whichever is sooner.

(6) Costs of any conflict resolution under paragraph (3) of this subsection shall be borne proportionately by the affected political subdivisions in accordance with the final percentage distributions of the proceeds of the tax as reflected by the renegotiated certificate.

- (7) All distribution certificates on file with the commissioner on July 1, 1994, which were not renegotiated in accordance with the 1990 decennial census figures or renegotiated on or after January 1, 1992, shall expire on December 31, 1995. Renegotiations with respect to such certificates shall be commenced in accordance with the requirements of this subsection on or before July 1, 1994. If a renegotiated certificate is not received by the commissioner by July 1, 1995, the authority to impose the tax authorized by Code Section 48-8-82 shall cease on December 31, 1995, and the tax shall not be levied in the special district after that date unless reimposition of the tax is subsequently authorized pursuant to Code Section 48-8-85. The commissioner shall retain and distribute the proceeds of such terminated tax shall be distributed in accordance with paragraph (4) of this subsection.
- (8) No qualified municipality within the special district whose population is less than 5 percent of the population in the special district according to the United States decennial census of 1990 shall receive a reduced percentage of distribution than presently being received under the existing certificate prior to renegotiations required in paragraph (7) of this subsection unless the new agreement is executed by the qualified municipality. This paragraph shall apply only to the negotiations required by paragraph (7) of this subsection and shall not apply to any subsequent renegotiations required by this subsection.
- (9) Political subdivisions shall be authorized, at their option, to renegotiate distribution certificates on a more frequent basis than is otherwise required under this subsection.
- (10) No provision of this subsection shall apply to any county which is authorized to levy or which levies a local sales tax, local use tax, or local sales and use tax for educational purposes pursuant to a local constitutional amendment or to any county which is authorized to expend all or any portion of the proceeds of any sales tax, use tax, or sales and use tax for educational purposes pursuant to a local constitutional amendment."

**SECTION 2-4.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-89.1, relating to procedure for certifying additional qualified municipalities, as follows:

336 "48-8-89.1.

(a) If there exists within any special district in which the tax authorized by this article is imposed a qualified municipality which was not a qualified municipality on the date of filing with the commissioner of the most recently filed certificate under Code Section

48-8-89, such qualified municipality may request the commissioner to give notice of the qualified municipality's existence as provided in this subsection. Upon receipt of such a request, the commissioner shall, unless he determines that the requesting entity is not a qualified municipality, within 30 days give written notice of the qualified municipality's existence to the county which is conterminous with the special district in which the qualified municipality is located and to each other qualified municipality within the special district. Such written notice shall include the name of the new qualified municipality, the effective date of the notice, and a statement of the provisions of this Code section.

(b) Within 60 days after the effective date of the notice referred to in subsection (a) of this Code section, a new distribution certificate shall be filed with the commissioner for the special district. This distribution certificate shall specify by percentage what portion of the

Code section, a new distribution certificate shall be filed with the commissioner for the special district. This distribution certificate shall specify by percentage what portion of the proceeds of the tax available for distribution within the special district shall be received by the county in which the special district is located and by each qualified municipality located wholly or partially within the special district, including the new qualified municipality. No distribution certificate may contain a total of specified percentages in excess of 100 percent.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a distribution certificate required by this Code section must be executed by the governing authorities of the county within which the special district is located and each qualified municipality located wholly or partially within the special district, including the new qualified municipality. Notwithstanding the fact that a certificate shall not contain an execution in behalf of one or more qualified municipalities within the special district, if the combined total of the populations of all such absent municipalities is less than one-half of the aggregate population of all qualified municipalities located within the special district, the submitting political subdivisions shall, in behalf of the absent municipalities, specify a percentage of that portion of the remaining proceeds which each such municipality shall receive, which percentage shall not be less than that proportion which each absent municipality's population bears to the total population of all qualified municipalities within the special district multiplied by that portion of the remaining proceeds which are received by all qualified municipalities within the special district. For the purpose of determining the population of the absent municipalities, only that portion of the population of each such municipality which is located within the special district shall be computed.

(d) If a new certificate is not filed for any special district as required by this Code section, the authority to impose the tax authorized by Code Section 48-8-82 within that special district shall cease on the first day of January of the year following the year in which the required distribution certificate could last have been timely filed. In any special district in which the authority to impose the tax is terminated pursuant to this subsection, the tax may

377 thereafter be reimposed only pursuant to the procedures specified in Code Sections 48-8-84 through 48-8-86. 378

- (e) If a new certificate is filed as required by this Code section, the commissioner shall begin to distribute the proceeds shall begin to be distributed as specified in the new certificate on the first day of January of the first calendar year which begins more than 60 days after the effective date of the notice referred to in subsection (b) of this Code section. The <del>commissioner shall continue to distribute the</del> proceeds of the tax shall continue to be distributed according to the new certificate until a subsequent certificate is filed and
- becomes effective as provided in Code Section 48-8-89.
  - (f)(1) As used in this subsection, the term:

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- (A) 'New qualified municipality' means a municipal corporation which has been chartered by local Act since the date of filing with the commissioner of the most recently filed certificate under Code Section 48-8-89 within a county which has a special district for the provision of local government services consisting of the unincorporated area of the county where the population of the unincorporated area of the county, after removal of the population of the new municipality from the unincorporated area, constitutes less than 20 percent of the population of the county according to the most recent decennial census.
- (B) 'Newly expanded qualified municipality' means a municipal corporation which since the date of filing with the commissioner of the most recently filed certificate under Code Section 48-8-89 has increased its population by more than 15 percent through one or more annexations and is located in the same county as a new qualified municipality.
- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code section, if there exists within any special district in which the tax authorized by this article is imposed a new qualified municipality or a newly expanded qualified municipality or both, such qualified municipality or municipalities may request the commissioner to give notice of the qualified municipality's or municipalities' existence and status as a new qualified municipality or newly expanded qualified municipality as provided in this subsection. Upon receipt of such a request, the commissioner shall, unless he or she determines that the requesting entity is not a new qualified municipality or newly expanded qualified municipality, within 30 days give written notice of the qualified municipality's existence and status to the county which is conterminous with the special district in which the qualified municipality is located and to each other qualified municipality within the special district. Such written notice shall include the name of the new qualified municipality or newly expanded qualified municipality, the effective date of the notice, and a statement of the provisions of this subsection.

(3) Within 60 days after the effective date of the notice referred to in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a new distribution certificate shall be filed with the commissioner for the special district. This distribution certificate shall address only the proceeds of the tax available for distribution from the percentage allocated to the county in the current distribution certificate and shall specify as a percentage of the total proceeds of the tax what portion of the proceeds shall be received by the county in which the special district is located and by the new qualified municipality and newly expanded qualified municipality, if any.

- (4) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a distribution certificate required by this subsection must be executed by the governing authorities of the county within which the special district is located each new qualified municipality located wholly or partially within the special district, and each newly expanded qualified municipality, if any. If a new certificate is not filed within 60 days as required by paragraph (3) of this subsection, the commissioner shall distribute the proceeds of the tax available for distribution from the percentage allocated to the county in the current distribution certificate shall be distributed such that:
  - (A) The new qualified municipality receives an allocation equal on a per capita basis to the average per capita allocation to the other qualified municipalities in the county (according to population), to be expended as provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-89; and
  - (B) Any newly expanded qualified municipality receives a total allocation of tax proceeds (including any amount previously allocated) equal on a per capita basis to the average per capita allocation to the other qualified municipalities in the county (according to population), to be expended as provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-89.

Every other qualified municipality shall continue to receive the share provided by the existing distribution certificate or otherwise provided by law. The county shall receive the remaining proceeds of the tax, to be expended as provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-89. For the purpose of determining the population of qualified municipalities, only that portion of the population of each such municipality which is located within the special district shall be computed. For the purpose of determining population under this Code section, all calculations of population shall be according to the most recent decennial census, including the census data from such census applicable to any annexed territory.

(5) The commissioner shall begin to distribute the proceeds shall be distributed as specified in the newly filed certificate or, if such a certificate is not filed, as specified in paragraph (4) of this subsection on the first day of the first month which begins more than

60 days after the effective date of the notice referred to in paragraph (2) of this subsection. The commissioner shall continue to distribute the proceeds of the tax shall continue to be distributed according to the existing certificate and the certificate applicable to the county and the new qualified municipality or, if such a certificate is not filed, as specified in paragraph (4) of this subsection until a subsequent certificate is filed and becomes effective as provided in Code Section 48-8-89."

**SECTION 2-5.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-89.2, relating to distribution of
- 459 proceeds to qualified municipalities which cease to be qualified, as follows:
- 460 "48-8-89.2.

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- 461 If the commissioner determines that a qualified municipality entitled to receive tax
- proceeds under this article has ceased to be a qualified municipality, he shall thereafter
- distribute the percentage of the proceeds of the tax to which that qualified municipality was
- entitled shall thereafter be distributed to the county which is conterminous with the special
- district and to each other qualified municipality within the special district pro rata
- according to the percentages of the tax to which each other such political subdivision is
- otherwise entitled; and such distribution formula shall remain in effect until a new
- certificate is filed and becomes effective as provided in Code Section 48-8-89."

**SECTION 2-6.** 

- 470 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-89.3, relating to levy of the tax
- in certain special districts, as follows:
- 472 "48-8-89.3.
- 473 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article to the contrary, the tax provided for
- in Code Section 48-8-82 shall be levied in any special district in which:
- (1) Prior to January 1, 1980, a joint county and municipal sales and use tax was levied
- 476 pursuant to Ga. L. 1975, p. 984, Section 2 (as amended by Ga. L. 1975, Ex. Sess., p.
- 477 1729, Section 1; Ga. L. 1976, p. 1019, Sections 1-13; Ga. L. 1977, p. 1008, Section 1; Ga.
- 478 L. 1978, p. 1429, Sections 1-3; Ga. L. 1978, p. 1460, Sections 1-3; Ga. L. 1978, p. 1678,
- 479 Section 1; Ga. L. 1978, p. 1695, Section 1; Ga. L. 1979, p. 446, Section 1) or in which
- a referendum election had authorized the levying of such a tax within the special district;
- 481 (2) The tax provided for in Code Section 48-8-82 was actually collected during the
- 482 period of January 1, 1980, to January 1, 1989; and
- 483 (3) There exists a qualified municipality which lies wholly or partially within the special
- 484 district and which:

(A) Was a qualified municipality at the time of filing of the distribution certificate most recently filed with the commissioner under Code Section 48-8-89; and

- (B) Was not assigned any percentage of the net proceeds of the tax under such distribution certificate.
- In any special district which meets the criteria specified in this subsection, the tax provided for in Code Section 48-8-82 shall be levied without regard to any past defects in compliance with the procedures specified by this article for the imposition of the tax.
  - (b) A qualified municipality described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of this Code section, for which receipt of a portion of the net tax proceeds was not specified in the certificate most recently filed with the commissioner under Code Section 48-8-89, may request the commissioner to thereafter distribute recalculate the distribution of a portion of the net tax proceeds to the qualified municipality as provided in this Code section. Upon receipt of such a request, the commissioner shall thereafter, unless he determines that the requesting municipality does not meet the criteria specified in this Code section, give written notice of a new distribution formula to the county which is conterminous with the special district, to the requesting qualified municipality, and to each other qualified municipality within the special district. Such new distribution formula shall be determined as follows:
    - (1) Begin with the percentages specified in the distribution certificate most recently filed with the commissioner;
    - (2) Assign to the requesting municipality a percentage of the net proceeds which is equal to the total percentage of the net proceeds previously distributed to all other qualified municipalities in the special district multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the population of the requesting municipality and the denominator of which is the population of all qualified municipalities within the special district;
    - (3) Deduct the percentage of the net proceeds so assigned to the requesting municipality from the percentages previously assigned to all other qualified municipalities within the special district, such deductions to be pro rata on the basis of population; and
- 513 (4) Make no change in the percentage of the net proceeds previously distributed to the 514 county which is conterminous with the special district.
  - (c) This new distribution formula shall be implemented at the earliest date deemed administratively practicable by the commissioner, and the notice specified in subsection (b) of this Code section shall include such date. This new distribution formula shall remain in effect until a subsequent distribution certificate is filed and becomes effective as provided in Code Section 48-8-89.

(d) For the purpose of all population based calculations under this Code section, only that
 portion of the population of a qualified municipality which is located within the special
 district shall be computed."

523 **SECTION 2-7.** 

- 524 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-104, relating to administration
- by the state revenue commissioner of the homestead option sales and use tax, as follows:
- *"*48-8-104.
- 527 (a) The sales and use tax levied pursuant to this article shall be exclusively administered
- and collected by the commissioner for the use and benefit of each county whose
- geographical boundary is conterminous with that of a special district. The provisions of
- Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 2 of this title shall be applicable to the administration and
- 531 <u>collection of such tax</u>. When such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner,
- 532 <u>such</u> Such administration and collection shall be accomplished in the same manner and
- subject to the same applicable provisions, procedures, and penalties provided in Article 1
- of this chapter. The except that the sales and use tax provided in this article shall be
- applicable to sales of motor fuels as prepaid local tax as that term is defined by paragraph
- (5.2) (5.1) of Code Section 48-8-2; provided, however, that all moneys collected from each
- taxpayer by the commissioner shall be applied first to such taxpayer's liability for taxes
- owed the state jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax. Dealers shall be allowed
- a percentage of the amount of the sales and use tax due and accounted for and shall be
- reimbursed in the form of a deduction in submitting, reporting, and paying the amount due
- if such amount is not delinquent at the time of payment. The deduction shall be at the rate
- and subject to the requirements specified under subsections (b) through (f) of Code Section
- 543 48-8-50.
- (b) Each sales and use tax return remitting sales and use taxes collected under this article
- shall separately identify the location of each retail establishment at which any of the sales
- and use taxes remitted were collected and shall specify the amount of sales and the amount
- of taxes collected at each establishment for the period covered by the return in order to
- facilitate the determination by the commissioner that all sales and use taxes imposed by this
- article are collected and distributed according to situs of sale.
- (c) The proceeds of the sales and use tax collected by the commissioner in each special
- district under this article shall be disbursed as soon as practicable after collection as
- follows:
- (1) One percent of the amount collected Where such tax is administered and collected
- by the commissioner, 1 percent of the amount collected shall be paid into the general fund
- of the state treasury in order to defray the costs of administration; and

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(2) Except for the amount or percentage provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection and the amount determined under subsections (d) and (e) of this Code section, the remaining proceeds of the sales and use tax shall be distributed to the governing authority of the county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district; provided, however, that a county and any qualified municipality shall be authorized by intergovernmental agreement to waive the equalization amount otherwise required under subsections (d) and (e) of this Code section and provide for a different distribution amount. In the event of such waiver, except for the percentage provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the remaining proceeds of the sales and use tax shall be distributed to the governing authority of the county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district. As a condition precedent for the authority to levy the sales and use tax or to collect any proceeds from the tax authorized by this article for the year following the first complete calendar year in which it is levied and for all subsequent years except the year following the year in which the sales and use tax is terminated under Code Section 48-8-106, the county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district shall, except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of Code Section 48-8-102, expend such proceeds as follows:

- (A) A portion of such proceeds shall be expended for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects as follows:
  - (i) The governing authority of the county whose geographical boundary is conterminous with that of the special district shall establish the capital factor which shall not exceed .200 and, for a county in which a qualified municipality is located, shall not be less than the level required by subsection (d) of this Code section; therefore, at a minimum, the county shall set the capital factor at a level that yields an amount of capital outlay proceeds that is equal to or greater than the sum of all equalization amounts due qualified municipalities and existing municipalities under subsection (e) of this Code section; and
  - (ii) Capital outlay projects shall be funded in an amount equal to the product of the capital factor multiplied by the net amount of the sales and use tax proceeds collected under this article during the previous calendar year, and this amount shall be referred to as capital outlay proceeds in subsections (d) and (e) of this Code section;
- (B) A portion of such proceeds shall be expended for the purpose of funding services within the special district equal to the revenue lost to the homestead exemption as provided in this Code section as follows:
  - (i) The homestead factor shall be calculated by multiplying the quantity 1.000 minus the capital factor times an amount equal to the net amount of sales and use tax collected in the special district pursuant to this article for the previous calendar year,

and then dividing by the taxes levied for county purposes on only that portion of the county tax digest that represents net assessments on qualified homestead property after all other homestead exemptions have been applied, rounding the result to three decimal places;

- (ii) If the homestead factor is less than or equal to 1.000, the amount of homestead exemption created under this article on qualified homestead property shall be equal to the product of the homestead factor multiplied times the net assessment of each qualified homestead remaining after all other homestead exemptions have been applied; and
- (iii) If the homestead factor is greater than 1.000, the homestead exemption created by this article on qualified homestead property shall be equal to the net assessment of each homestead remaining after all other homestead exemptions have been applied; and
- (C) If any of such proceeds remain following the distribution provided for in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph and subsections (d) and (e) of this Code section:
  - (i) The millage rate levied for county purposes shall be rolled back in an amount equal to such excess divided by the net taxable digest for county purposes after deducting all homestead exemptions including the exemption under this article; and (ii) In the event the rollback created by division (i) of this subparagraph exceeds the millage rate for county purposes, the governing authority of the county whose boundary is conterminous with the special district shall be authorized to expend the surplus funds for funding all or any portion of those services which are to be provided by such governing authorities pursuant to and in accordance with Article IX, Section II, Paragraph III of the Constitution of this state.
- (d)(1) The commissioner authority administering and collecting the tax shall distribute to the governing authority of each qualified municipality located in the special district a share of the capital outlay proceeds calculated as provided in this subsection and subsection (e) of this Code section which proceeds shall be expended for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects of such municipality.
- (2) Both the tax commissioner and the governing authority for the county in which a qualified municipality is located shall cooperate with and assist the commissioner in the calculation of the equalization amounts under subsection (e) of this Code section and shall, on or before July 1 of each year, provide to the commissioner and the governing authority of each qualified municipality written certification of the following:
- (A) The capital factor set by the county for the current calendar year; provided, however, that the capital factor may not exceed 0.200;

(B) The total amount, if any, due to be paid to existing municipalities from the capital outlay proceeds as required by any intergovernmental agreement between the county and such municipalities;

- (C) The incorporated county millage rate in each qualified municipality;
- (D) The net homestead digest for each qualified municipality;
  - (E) The total homestead digest; and

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(F) The unincorporated county millage rate.

If the tax commissioner and the governing authority of the county fail to provide such certification on or before July 1, the commissioner shall not distribute to such county, nor shall such county expend, any additional proceeds of the sales and use tax collected after July 1 unless and until such certification is provided.

(3) The commissioner shall then calculate the equalization amount due each qualified municipality based on the certifications provided by the tax commissioner and the governing authority of the county and provide such calculation to the tax commissioner and the governing authority. The authority responsible for administering and collecting such tax shall and pay such amount to the governing authority of each qualified municipality in six equal monthly payments as soon as practicable during or after each of the last six months of the current calendar year. In the event an existing municipality that has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with a county at any time before January 1, 2007, to receive capital outlay proceeds of the homestead option sales and use tax and such intergovernmental agreement has become or does become null and void for any reason, such existing municipality shall be treated under this article the same as if it were a qualified municipality as defined in paragraph (4) of Code Section 48-8-101 and therefore receive payment of equalization amounts under this article as provided for under this article. The commissioner authority responsible for administering and collecting such tax shall distribute to the governing authority of the county each month the net sales and use tax remaining after payment of equalization amounts to the qualified municipalities.

- (e)(1) As used in this subsection, the term:
  - (A) 'Equalization amount' means for a qualified municipality the product of the equalization millage times the net homestead digest for that qualified municipality.
  - (B) 'Equalization millage' means for each qualified municipality the product of the homestead factor calculated pursuant to division (c)(2)(B)(i) of this Code section times the difference between the unincorporated county millage rate and the incorporated county millage rate for that qualified municipality.

665	(C) 'Incorporated county millage rate' means the millage rate for all ad valorem taxes	
666	for county purposes levied by the county in each of the qualified municipalities in the	
667	county.	
668	(D) 'Net homestead digest' means for each qualified municipality the total net	
669	assessed value of all qualified homestead property located in that portion of the	
670	qualified municipality located in the county remaining after all other homestead	
671	exemptions are applied.	
672	(E) 'Total homestead digest' means the total net assessed value of all qualified	
673	homestead property located in the county remaining after all other homestead	
674	exemptions are applied.	
675	(F) 'Unincorporated county millage rate' means the millage rate for all ad valorem	
676	taxes for county purposes levied by the county in the unincorporated areas of the	
677	county.	
678	(2) For illustration purposes, a hypothetical example of the calculation of the	
679	equalization amount is provided below.	
680	First, calculate the homestead factor in accordance with	
681	division (c)(2)(B)(i) of this Code section as follows:	
682	(A) Capital factor certified by county as required by	0.150
683	subsection (d) of this Code section	
684	(B) Net amount of sales and use tax collected in the	\$ 50 million
685	special district pursuant to this article for the previous	
686	calendar year	
687	(C) Taxes levied for county purposes on only that portion	\$100 million
688	of the county tax digest that represents net assessments on	
689	qualified homestead property after all other homestead	
690	exemptions have been applied	
691	(D) Calculation of homestead factor using figures above	.425
692	= [(10150)(\$50 million/\$100 million)]	
693	Next, calculate the equalization amount in accordance with	
694	paragraph (1) of this subsection as follows:	
695	(E) Unincorporated county millage rate	15.0 mills
696	(F) Minus the incorporated county millage rate for	(10.0 mills)
697	qualified municipality 'Y'	
698	Difference:	= 5.0 mills

699 (G) Times homestead factor (calculated above) x .425 (H) Equals the equalization millage: 700 2.125 mills 701 (I) Times net homestead digest for qualified \$200 million 702 municipality 'Y' 703 (J) Equals the equalization amount payable to \$ 425,000.00 704 municipality 'Y'

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- (3) In the event the total amount payable in a calendar year to all existing municipalities as certified by the county pursuant to subparagraph (d)(2)(B) of this Code section plus the total equalization amount payable to all qualified municipalities in the special district exceeds the capital outlay proceeds calculated based on a maximum capital factor of 0.200, the commissioner authority responsible for administering and collecting such tax shall pay to the governing authority of each qualified municipality a share of such proceeds calculated as follows:
- (A) Determine the capital outlay proceeds based on a maximum capital factor of 0.200;
- (B) Subtract the amount certified by the county as payable to existing municipalities pursuant to subparagraph (d)(2)(B) of this Code section; and
  - (C) The remaining amount equals the portion of the capital outlay proceeds that may be used by the commissioner to pay equalization amounts to qualified municipalities.
- The commissioner shall calculate each qualified municipality's share of such remaining amount by dividing the net homestead digest for each qualified municipality by the total homestead digest for all municipalities.
  - (4) In the event the incorporated county millage rate for a qualified municipality is greater than the unincorporated county millage rate, no payment shall be due from the governing authority of the qualified municipality to the governing authority of the county.
  - (5) In the event the amount of capital outlay proceeds exceeds the sum of the equalization amounts due all qualified municipalities plus the total amount certified under subparagraph (d)(2)(B) of this Code section as due all existing municipalities, the commissioner shall distribute to each qualified municipality a portion of such excess equal to the net homestead digest for such municipality divided by the total homestead digest.
- 729 (6) If any qualified municipality is located partially in the county then only that portion 730 so located shall be considered in the calculations contained in this subsection."

731 **SECTION 2-8.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-113, relating to administration by the state revenue commissioner of the county special purpose local option sales tax, as follows:

735 "48-8-113.

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A tax levied pursuant to this part shall be exclusively administered and collected by the commissioner for the use and benefit of the county and qualified municipalities within such special district imposing the tax. The provisions of Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 2 of this title shall be applicable to the administration and collection of such tax. When such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner, such Such administration and collection shall be accomplished in the same manner and subject to the same applicable provisions, procedures, and penalties provided in Article 1 of this chapter. The except that the sales and use tax provided in this article shall be applicable to sales of motor fuels as prepaid local tax as that term is defined by paragraph (5.2) (5.1) of Code Section 48-8-2; provided, however, that all moneys collected from each taxpayer by the commissioner shall be applied first to such taxpayer's liability for taxes owed the state jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax; and provided, further, that the commissioner such jurisdiction may rely upon a representation by or in behalf of the county and qualified municipalities within the special district or the Secretary of State that such a tax has been validly imposed, and the <del>commissioner and the commissioner's</del> collecting jurisdiction and its agents shall not be liable to any person for collecting any such tax which was not validly imposed. Dealers shall be allowed a percentage of the amount of the tax due and accounted for and shall be reimbursed in the form of a deduction in submitting, reporting, and paying the amount due if such amount is not delinquent at the time of payment. The deduction shall be at the rate and subject to the requirements specified under subsections (b) through (f) of Code Section 48-8-50."

757 **SECTION 2-9.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-114, relating to return requirements of such sales tax, as follows:

760 "48-8-114.

Each sales tax return remitting taxes collected under this article shall separately identify the location of each retail establishment at which any of the taxes remitted were collected and shall specify the amount of sales and the amount of taxes collected at each establishment for the period covered by the return in order to facilitate the determination by the commissioner that all taxes imposed by this article are collected and distributed according to situs of sale."

767 **SECTION 2-10.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-115, relating to disbursement of

- 769 the proceeds of such tax, as follows:
- 770 "48-8-115.
- 771 (a) The proceeds of the tax collected by the commissioner in each county within a special
- district under this part shall be disbursed as soon as practicable after collection as follows:
- 773 (1) One percent of the amount collected Where such tax is administered and collected
- by the commissioner, one percent of the amount collected shall be paid into the general
- fund of the state treasury in order to defray the costs of administration; and
- (2) Except for the <u>amount or percentage provided in paragraph (1) of this Code section</u>,
- the remaining proceeds of the tax shall be distributed to the governing authority of the
- county within the special district imposing the tax as specified in subsection (b) of this
- 779 Code section.
- (b) The county within the special district shall distribute any such proceeds as follows:
- (1) To the county governing authority and any qualified municipalities as specified in an
- intergovernmental agreement. Where an intergovernmental agreement has been entered
- into, the agreement shall, at a minimum, include the following:
- 784 (A) The specific capital outlay project or projects to be funded pursuant to the
- agreement;
- (B) The estimated or projected dollar amounts allocated for each project from tax
- proceeds from the tax authorized by this part;
- (C) The procedures for distributing proceeds from the tax authorized by this part to
- 789 qualified municipalities;
- 790 (D) A schedule for distributing proceeds from the tax authorized by this part to
- qualified municipalities which schedule shall include the priority or order in which
- projects will be fully or partially funded;
- (E) A provision that all capital outlay projects included in the agreement shall be
- funded from proceeds from the tax authorized by this part except as otherwise agreed;
- (F) A provision that proceeds from the tax authorized by this part shall be maintained
- in separate accounts and utilized exclusively for the specified purposes;
- (G) Record-keeping and audit procedures necessary to carry out the purposes of this
- 798 part; and
- (H) Such other provisions as the county and participating municipalities choose to
- address; or
- Where an intergovernmental agreement has not been entered into pursuant to
- paragraph (1) of this subsection, the county within the special district shall distribute the
- proceeds of the tax authorized by this part as follows:

(A)(i) To the governing authority of the county for one or more level one county-wide projects specified by the governing authority of the county in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111; provided, however, that any tax levied under this part that funds level one county-wide projects where an intergovernmental agreement has not been entered into pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be levied for a five-year period. In the event that any or all level one county-wide projects are estimated to cost an amount which exceeds the proceeds projected to be collected during a 24 month period of the levy of the tax, the tax shall be levied for a six-year period.

- (ii) In the event that no level one county-wide project is included in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111, to the governing authority of the county for one or more level two county-wide projects specified by the governing authority of the county in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111. In the event no level one county-wide project is included in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111 and the governing authority of the county has specified one or more municipal projects as level two county-wide projects in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111, to the governing authority of the appropriate municipality or municipalities for such level two county-wide projects specified in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111. The total estimated cost of all level two county-wide projects specified under this division shall not exceed 20 percent of the proceeds projected to be collected during the period specified in the ordinance or resolution required by subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-111; or
- (B) In the event that no county-wide project is included in the resolution or ordinance calling for the imposition of the tax or in the event that tax proceeds exceed that amount required to fund the county-wide project or projects, the remaining proceeds shall be distributed in the following manner:
  - (i) As specified in an intergovernmental agreement other than the agreement specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection. The intergovernmental agreement shall include, at a minimum, the information required in paragraph (1) of this subsection; or
  - (ii) To the qualified municipalities within the special district based upon the ratio that the population of each qualified municipality bears to the total population of the county within the special district. If any qualified municipality is located in more than one county, only that portion of its population that is within the special district shall be counted. The remainder of such proceeds shall be distributed to the

governing authority of the county within the special district. Capital outlay projects included in the referendum ballot by the county or any qualified municipalities within the special district shall be based upon the anticipated proceeds and distribution of the tax. The governing authority of the county within the special district shall distribute all proceeds received by the county for the tax levied pursuant to this part to the qualified municipalities within the special district on a monthly basis where proceeds are distributed in accordance with this division."

**SECTION 2-11.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-141, relating to the imposition and collection of the sales tax for educational purposes, as follows:

851 "48-8-141.

Except as otherwise expressly provided in Article VIII, Section VI, Paragraph IV of the Constitution of Georgia, the sales tax for educational purposes which may be levied by a board of education of a county school district or concurrently by the board of education of a county school district and the board of education of each independent school district located within such county, shall be imposed and levied by such board or boards of education and collected by the commissioner on behalf of such board or boards of education in the same manner as provided for under Part 1 of this article and the provisions of Part 1 of this article in particular, but without limitation, the provisions regarding the authority of the commissioner to administer and collect this tax, retain the 1 percent any agreed administrative fee, and promulgate rules and regulations governing this tax shall apply equally to such board or boards of education."

**SECTION 2-12.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-204, relating to administration and collection of the water and sewer projects and costs tax, as follows:

866 "48-8-204.

A tax levied pursuant to this article shall be exclusively administered and collected by the commissioner for the use and benefit of the municipality imposing the tax. The provisions of Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 2 of this title shall be applicable to the administration and collection of such tax. When such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner, such Such administration and collection shall be accomplished in the same manner and subject to the same applicable provisions, procedures, and penalties provided in Article 1 of this chapter. except that the The sales and use tax provided in this article shall be applicable to sales of motor fuels as prepaid local tax as that term is defined by paragraph (5.2) (5.1) of Code Section 48-8-2; provided, however, that all moneys collected from each

taxpayer by the commissioner shall be applied first to such taxpayer's liability for taxes owed the state jurisdiction administering and collecting such tax; and provided, further, that the commissioner such jurisdiction may rely upon a representation by or in behalf of the municipality or the Secretary of State that such a tax has been validly imposed, and the commissioner and the commissioner's collecting jurisdiction and its agents shall not be liable to any person for collecting any such tax which was not validly imposed. Dealers shall be allowed a percentage of the amount of the tax due and accounted for and shall be reimbursed in the form of a deduction in submitting, reporting, and paying the amount due if such amount is not delinquent at the time of payment. The deduction shall be at the rate and subject to the requirements specified under subsections (b) through (f) of Code Section 48-8-50."

**SECTION 2-13.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-205, relating to the identification and location of retail establishments for sales and use tax return purposes, as follows:

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Each sales and use tax return remitting sales and use taxes collected under this article shall separately identify the location of each retail establishment at which any of the sales and use taxes remitted were collected and shall specify the amount of sales and the amount of taxes collected at each establishment for the period covered by the return in order to facilitate the determination by the commissioner that all sales and use taxes imposed by this article are collected and distributed according to situs of sale."

**SECTION 2-14.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-8-206, relating to disbursement of proceeds of the water and sewer projects and costs tax, as follows:

900 "48-8-206.

- The proceeds of the tax collected by the commissioner in each municipality under this article shall be disbursed as soon as practicable after collection as follows:
- 903 (1) One percent of the amount collected Where such tax is administered and collected by the commissioner, one percent of the amount collected shall be paid into the general fund of the state treasury in order to defray the costs of administration; and
- 906 (2) The remaining proceeds of the tax shall be distributed to the governing authority of the municipality imposing the tax."

**SECTION 3-1.** 

908 PART III

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910 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.